

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
MEETING MINUTES OF
May 23, 2005

Present: Berger, Bunker, Chadow, Chair Cooney, Fort, Vice-Chair Gwynne, Longley-Cook, McGaughey, Moore, Steffens

Absent/Excused: None

Guests: Greg Stoia, City Senior Construction Inspector
Mary Louis Lambert

MINUTES: The minutes of April 28, 2005 where approved.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Event Parking:

Commissioner Toby Berger informed the commission that the East Bay Regional Park District would again provide additional disabled parking spaces for the summer concert events scheduled for the 2nd Friday of June, July and August. Secretary to provide revised table sign.

2. Curbside Mailbox Reductions:

Chair Ed Cooney concerned about the reduction in street mailbox locations contacted the Postal Agency (748-4156). They informed him that if contacted they will provide the location of the nearest box. They also informed him that a person could make arrangements with the postal delivery person to have the mail picked up. A commissioner suggested that Braille be provided in the inside of the door flap as to pick-up times, etc.

3. Pedestrian Access During Construction Projects:

Commissioners and Greg Stoia, City's Senior Construction Inspector, discussed pedestrian access during the Webster Street project. Though contractor assistance is available to provide assistance to the public during working hours, it is sometimes difficult during non-working hours for the visually impaired to ascertain the location of bus stops or street crossings. The committee made some suggestions and discussed forming a subcommittee to make additional recommendations on current and future projects.

4. Bylaws – Absences:

Discussion on number of absences allowed per the commission bylaws was tabled.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

1. The Secretary informed the Commissioners that Commissioner Elaine McCoy had resigned.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Commissioners Toby Berger and Alysa Chadow shared information on audible signal products through their discussions with Mr. Ed Campbell, an audible signal supplier. Secretary informed the commission that Mr. Campbell has provided audible signal products to the City in the past via bidding process, the most recent being the audible signal upgrades at the intersection of Park Street at Santa Clara Avenue and Park Street at Otis Drive.
2. Commissioner Jody Moore would like that the local newspaper(s) publish an article on disability awareness. Commissioner Toby Berger stated that this could coincide with Disability Awareness Month, which is held annually in October, and that it be placed on the September agenda for further discussion.
3. Guest Ms. Mary Louis Lambert informed the commission that there is a video relay system that works that interfaces with the internet to provide video sign language translation for the hearing impaired, similar to TTY's which is a phone line based interface. The video relay system requires a 256MB uplink that is available only with the 'business' level cable service. The 'business level service is available by AP&T for an additional \$10/month above the Basic package. A commissioner suggested if AP&T could provide a medical discount.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, June 27th in Room 391, City Hall.

Sincerely,

Matthew T. Naclerio
Public Works Director

By: Ed Sommerauer
Associate Civil Engineer

ES:lc